

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 26401 01 OF 02 101616Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05 OC-06 CCO-00 MCT-01 EB-07

COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 SIL-01 LAB-04 /093 W

----- 059623

R 101532Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4821

INFO AMCONSUL BORDEAUX

AMCONSUL LYON

AMCONSUL MARSEILLE

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

AMCONSUL NICE

AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 26401

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, FR

SUBJECT: CONTINUED VIOLENCE IN CORSICA

REF: NICE 414 AND PREVIOUS (NOTAL)

SUMMARY. AS REPORTED BY AMCONSUL NICE, SERIOUS VIOLENCE CONTINUES IN CORSICA. SITUATION MAY GET WORSE BEFORE IT GETS BETTER, BUT EMBASSY CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT MAJORITY OF CORSICANS WANT TO REMAIN FRENCH, AND ARE PROBABLY GETTING FED UP WITH THE EXTREMIST GROUPS. END SUMMARY.

1. SOCIAL DISCONTENT AND VIOLENCE ARE SPREADING IN
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PARIS 26401 01 OF 02 101616Z

CORSICA IN THE WAKE OF THE SEPTEMBER 7TH BOMBING OF AN

AIR FRANCE BOEING 707 AT THE AJACCIO AIRPORT. ON SEPTEMBER 9, A BOMB EXPLODED IN THE WINE CELLAR OF A REPATRIATED NORTH AFRICAN VINTNER, AND ALTHOUGH THERE WERE NO INJURIES, DAMAGE WAS EXTENSIVE. AT THE SAME TIME, SEAMEN OF THE CGT (COMMUNIST) LABOR UNION HAVE TURNED A PRE-ANNOUNCED 24-HOUR STRIKE AGAINST THE SALE OF ONE OF THE ISLAND'S CAR FERRIES INTO A STRIKE OF UNDECLARED LENGTH, STRANDING AN ESTIMATED 1,700 PEOPLE AND 500 CARS IN AJACCIO, THE ISLAND'S CAPITAL. METROPOLITAN SEAMEN IN MARSEILLE HAVE COME OUT IN A DEMONSTRATION OF SOLIDARITY WITH THEIR CORSICAN UNION BROTHERS, IMMOBILIZING SEVEN CAR FERRIES AND CONTAINER-SHIPS ON THE MAINLAND. MEANWHILE, MAX SIMEONI, BROTHER OF IMPRISONED CORSICAN AUTONOMOUS LEADER EDMOND SIMEONI, CONTINUES TO ELUDE ALL EFFORTS ON THE PART OF POLICE AND OTHER AUTHORITIES AND TO RANGE FREELY ACROSS THE MAQUIS OF THE INTERIOR.

2. ELYSEE SPOKESMAN JEAN-PHILIPPE LECAT, SPEAKING FOR PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING ON SEPTEMBER 9, DECLARED THAT "A FIRM APPLICATION OF REPUBLICAN LAW IN CORSICA WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE SCRUPULOUS EXECUTION OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ENGAGEMENTS MADE WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ISLAND." CORSICAN POLITICAL LEADERS, RANGING FROM THE COMMUNISTS ON ONE SIDE TO THE UDR ON THE OTHER, HAVE BEEN UNANIMOUS IN THEIR CONDEMNATION OF VIOLENCE AS A MEANS TO ACHIEVE SATISFACTION OF THE ECONOMIC DEMANDS THAT THE ISLAND HAS BEEN MAKING FOR SOME TIME TO GOF. IN ADDITION, LOCAL PRESS OF ALL POLITICAL COLORING HAS CALLED THE RECENT VIOLENCE ON THE ISLAND UNJUSTIFIED. ANALYZING THE SITUATION FROM BOTH SIDES, QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS (LEFT) DECLARES THAT, "BETWEEN DECENTRALIZATION AND INDEPENDENCE, AND PASSING THROUGH VARIOUS FORMS OF AUTONOMY, THE LIST OF GRIEVANCES IS AS RICH AND VARIED AS THE NOMENCLATURE OF THE DIFFERENT MOVEMENTS AND GROUPS (ON THE ISLAND.) FIGARO (PRO-GOF) SAYS THAT THE ISLAND'S SILENT MAJORITY IS FED UP WITH THE SMALL EXTREMIST GROUPS THAT HAVE BROUGHT TO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PARIS 26401 01 OF 02 101616Z

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 26401 02 OF 02 101541Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05 OC-06 CCO-00 MCT-01 EB-07

COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 SIL-01 LAB-04 /093 W

----- 059167

R 101532Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4822

INFO AMCONSUL BORDEAUX

AMCONSUL LYON

AMCONSUL MARSEILLE

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

AMCONSUL NICE

AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 26401

THE ISLAND SUCH SOCIAL, AND ULTIMATELY ECONOMIC, UNSET-
TLEMENT.

3. COMMENT: THOUGH TRUE THAT ALMOST EVERYBODY ON THE
ISLAND HAS A COMPLAINT OF ONE SORT OR ANOTHER AGAINST
GOF, IT IS SAFE TO ASSUME THAT A VERY LARGE MAJORITY OF
THE ISLANDERS CONDONES IN NO WAY THE VIOLENCE OF MAX
AND EDMOND SIMEONI AND COMPANY. IN THE FOREFRONT OF
RECENT EVENTS HAS BEEN THE FRONT FOR NATIONAL CORSICAN
LIBERATION, BUT IT IS LIKELY THAT THE ISLANDERS' PATIEN-
CE IS WEARING THIN WITH THIS SMALL GROUP OF EXTREMISTS.
THE PROBLEM FOR POLICE AUTHORITIES IS THE VEGETATION OF
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PARIS 26401 02 OF 02 101541Z

CORSICA'S INTERIOR AND THE NUMEROUS MOUNTAIN RANGES,
WHICH MAKE IT EASY FOR PERPETRATORS OF VIOLENT ACTS TO

ESCAPE DETECTION. (IT IS ALSO TRUE THAT MILITANT SYMPATHIZERS, THOUGH NOT NUMEROUS, ARE SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE ISLAND AND OFFER REFUGE TO THE PURSUED.) THE OLD CLICHES ABOUT CORSICANS -- SUCH AS THEIR BEING LAZY, SURLY, INHOSPITABLE, ETC. -- ARE BASICALLY INACCURATE. LACK OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND OF THE IMPLANTATION OF INDUSTRY HAS BROUGHT ABOUT A MAJOR FLUX OF THE ISLAND'S YOUNG TO THE MAINLAND AND EVEN TO COUNTRIES OTHER THAN FRANCE, BUT GOF IS MAKING CONCERTED EFFORTS TO RECTIFY PAST NEGLIGENCE AND, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ISLAND'S SHOPKEEPERS AND NATIVE FARMERS, SEEM TO BE MAKING MORE OF AN ATTEMPT TO UPGRADE THE ISLAND'S STANDARD OF LIVING.
RUSH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CORSICA, POLITICAL SITUATION, CIVIL DISORDERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PARIS26401
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760342-0784
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760973/aaaackag.tel
Line Count: 183
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 NICE 414
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <11 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONTINUED VIOLENCE IN CORSICA
TAGS: PINT, FR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006